



City of Santa Barbara  
**Parks & Recreation**  
Your Recreation Leader

**Murder  
Mystery  
Drama Camp**

July 7, 2013

Dear Murder Mystery Drama Camp Parents,

We are so excited about your young actor joining us this summer! Camp will begin on Monday, July 15<sup>th</sup> 2013. We hope that your actor will enjoy participating in this summer's production of "The Vampire Murders" as much as we will enjoy working with them on this interactive mystery. This day camp experience is designed to help young actors hone their acting skills and introduce them to the art of interactive drama and improvisation, all in a safe, non-competitive environment. All participants will have speaking parts that will allow everyone the opportunity to shine at the end of camp performance. Our goal is that your child leaves camp with a long lasting appreciation of the theater arts....and of course, lots of new friends!

Please read through all of the information carefully. Should you have any questions, call the Youth Activities office at 564-5495. This number will also allow you to leave a message for the Camp Director Trafford Burke. If you care to speak to the executive director in charge of C.A.T.S. Summer Camps you may call (661) 718-3968 or at [rdiesel@gypsyproductions.com](mailto:rdiesel@gypsyproductions.com)

Your young actor is enrolled in Murder Mystery Drama Camp starting Monday, July 15<sup>th</sup> and ending Friday, July 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, for 1 week. Our end of camp showcase for family and friends will be held on Friday afternoon at 3:15pm in the Recreational Ballroom where camp is held. Our performances are always free and photography and videotaping is encouraged! Pick up and drop off takes place at the Carrillo Recreation Center located at 100 East Carrillo in the Ballroom. Please park in one of the conveniently located City parking structures and walk your young actor into the building. There is 75 minutes of free parking in City lots. **THANK YOU FOR NOT PARKING NEXT DOOR IN FRONT OF THE CARRILLO GYM!**

Never leave the pick up and drop off location without signing your child in and out with a counselor each day. Please remember that a **\$15 CASH ONLY** materials fee is due on the first day. This covers scripts, props and production materials. *This was reduced from the advertised fee of \$20 because our Vampire story is set in modern day so campers can wear their own clothes.*

Camp Director and Staff are to request a picture ID of any adult, parent, or individual that is seeking to release into their custody a registered camp participant. Camp Directors must receive in advance written permission from a parent authorizing release of their camper to someone not previously included in the Camper Information Forms.

**What to Bring to Camp Each Day:** It is important that your young actor bring a lunch and a morning and afternoon snack each day. Everything must fit into your child's backpack—lunch, snacks, water bottle (with water), Everything must be labeled. Please check the schedule each day so your child is properly prepared. **WE DO NOT PROVIDE BEVERAGES OR SNACKS, SO PLEASE PACK**

## **SNACKS AND PLENTY TO DRINK!**

**What to Wear Each Day:** Camper should wear comfortable clothes and shoes (**NO FLIP FLOPS-SANDALS MUST HAVE A STRAP ON THE BACK**).

**Camp T-shirts:** Each child will receive a C.A.T.S. "Murder Mystery Drama Camp" T-shirt on the last day of camp, we ask that you email us back with your child's name and their t-shirt size so that we can provide them the proper size t-shirt (***you may choose from: Youth Large (14-16), Adult Small, Adult Medium or Adult Large***).

**Forms :** Attached to this email are very important forms that need to be filled out and signed ***before*** the first day of camp. One is a waiver form from C.A.T.S. and the other is a waiver form from Santa Barbara recreational center.

**Daily Camp Schedule:** Is attached with this email. Please read each day. If you have any questions or your child will be absent from camp, please call the Youth Activities office by 8:30 am at 564-5495. If you forget to call, it will hold up the camp getting started.

**About the Camp Director:** ***Traford Burke*** - Traford is excited to be back with C.A.T.S. again this year as the Santa Barbara Camp's director. Currently working as a teacher at San Marcos High School, Traford is no stranger to the activity of speaking in front of large groups. First bitten by the Theater-Bug in junior high, Traford earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theater at Boston University and worked on the East Coast and then Hollywood for 14 years. He can be seen in the background of a lot of television shows and movies you've seen, many times. Fortunately for C.A.T.S., he prefers the foreground for the youthful talent you see assembled before you on stage, today! (There were no more parts for Traford...)

**About the Counselor:** ***Lauren Harkson-Brady*** – Lauren is a senior counselor and has been involved with C.A.T.S. since she was six years old as a camper. She served several years as a counselor-in-training and she is thrilled to still be involved with camps as a counselor and choreographer. Lauren is an accomplished dancer and participates on an award winning competition team in Ventura County. She lives in Ventura and works many of our camps there and we are happy to have her as a part of our Santa Barbara camps this year!

Camp directors carry cellular phones for emergency purposes only. If you need to contact your camper, call the Youth Activities office at 564-5495 and we will contact the director to call you back.

We look forward to wonderful and great summer!

Sincerely,

Traford Burke  
Camp Director  
&  
Terry Brown  
Youth Activities Supervisor



# Murder Mystery Drama Camp Sample Schedule

## Day 1 Monday July 15<sup>th</sup> 2013

8:45am - 9:30am	Parent Sign-in Arrival
9:30 - 10:30	Introductions, Safety and Procedures & Ice Breakers
10:30 - 10:45	Morning Snack
10:45 - 11:15	Improvisation Games
11:15am - 12pm	Reading from the script
12pm - 1pm	LUNCH
1pm - 2:30	Reading parts from the script
2:30pm - 2:45pm	Afternoon Snack
2:45 - 3:45	Reading parts from the script and Improvisational scenes using characters from the script
3:45	Wrap up day
4pm	Sign out

## Day 2 Tuesday July 16<sup>th</sup> 2013

8:45 am - 9:15	Arrival /Group Icebreakers
9:15 - 10:30	Announcement of cast list and scripts/First read-thru
10:30-10:45	Morning Snack
10:45am - 12pm	Group Rehearsal/Blocking
12 pm - 1pm	LUNCH
1pm - 2:30	Improvisation Game/Small Group Character Work
2:30 - 2:45	Afternoon snack
2:45 - 3:45	First run-through with blocking
3:45	Wrap up day
4pm	Sign out

## Day 3 Wednesday July, 17<sup>th</sup> 2013

8:45 am - 9:15	Arrival /Group Icebreakers
9:15 - 10:30	Run the show with blocking and improv
10:30 - 10:45	Morning snack
10:45 - 12:00 pm	Arts and crafts creating any scenery/props needed
12pm-1pm	LUNCH
1pm - 2:30	Improvisation Game/All Cast - Character Work
2:30 - 2:45	Afternoon snack
2:45 - 3:45	Rehearse show with blocking
3:45	Wrap up day
4pm	Sign out

## Day 4 Thursday July, 18<sup>th</sup> 2013

8:45 am - 9:15	Arrival /Group Icebreakers
9:30 - 10:30	Small Groups - Character Work and work on lines
10:30 - 10:45	Morning snack
10:45 - 12:00pm	Run the show with blocking and improv
12pm - 1pm	LUNCH
1pm - 2:30	Improvisation Game/Run the show with blocking
2:30 - 2:45	Afternoon snack
2:45 - 3:45	Run the show with blocking, <b>no scripts on stage</b>
3:45	Wrap up day
4pm	Sign out

**Day 5 Friday, July, 19<sup>th</sup> 2013**

8:45 am – 9:15

Arrival/ Group Icebreaker

9:30 -10:30

Run entire show, no stopping, without scripts.

10:30 -10:45

Morning snack

10:45 – 11:15

Improvisation/Theater Games

11:15 - 12pm

Give out T-shirts/T-shirt signing

12-1pm

LUNCH

1pm - 2:30

Dress Rehearsal/Run entire show

2:30-3

Afternoon snack, restroom break, stretching

3 – 3:15

Backstage preparation for Performance

3:15

SHOWTIME!

4:15pm (or when show ends)

Sign out